

KCC-2008 (KCC-12681)

Proposed Amended Claims

28. (Twice Amended) An absorbent article adapted to fit about a waist of a wearer, including a rear waist of the wearer, the absorbent article having a longitudinal direction and a lateral direction, the absorbent article further comprising:

front and rear waist sections with at least a first portion of the rear waist section formed of a stretchable material,

an intermediate section which includes an absorbent portion and which intermediate section interconnects the front and rear waist sections, and

a gasketing assembly including at least one gasket element having a face portion deployable toward the rear waist of the wearer and at least one thrust portion, the [gasketing assembly further] at least one thrust portion including at least one compression resistant member, the at least one thrust portion effective to deploy the gasket element face portion toward the rear waist of the wearer, the gasketing assembly operatively joined with the stretchable material of the first portion of the rear waist section to mechanically deploy the at least one gasket element upon tensioning of the stretchable material to fill a volume occurring between the rear waist section of the absorbent article and the rear waist of the wearer, the at least one gasket element configured upon deployment to inhibit a longitudinal flow of human discharge along a [body faceable] bodyfacing surface of the absorbent article.

1 32. (Twice Amended) The absorbent article of claim 28 wherein the
2 compression resistant member is encased within [a soft] an inner covering.

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4 35. (Amended) The absorbent article of claim 34 wherein [the] each
5 compression resistant member [of each of the pair of opposed thrust portions] is encased
6 within [a soft] an inner covering.

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8 43. (Twice Amended) The absorbent article of claim 28 wherein the at
9 least one gasket element is formed at least in part by a bodyside liner and [the gasketing
10 assembly comprises] a pair of [leg member] thrust portions, each [leg member] thrust portion
11 having first and second terminal ends with the first terminal end of each [leg member] thrust
12 portion connected to a face of the bodyside liner and the second terminal end of each [leg
13 member] thrust portion connected to the first portion of the rear waist section formed of a
14 stretchable material.

1 45. (Twice Amended) In a disposable absorbent article which defines a
2 longitudinal direction with a longitudinal centerline and a lateral direction and which
3 absorbent article includes a waist section having a stretchable waist material adapted to fit
4 about a waist of a wearer, the wearer having a rear waist and a lower back, the improvement
5 comprising:

6 a gasketing assembly including at least one gasket element, the gasket element
7 comprising at least one thrust portion, the at least one thrust portion comprising at least one
8 compression resistant member, the gasketing assembly operatively joined with the
9 stretchable waist material about the longitudinal centerline of the absorbent article to deploy
10 the at least one gasket element against the lower back of the wearer when the stretchable
11 waist material is in a stretched condition to fill a volume occurring between the waist section
12 of the absorbent article and the rear waist of the wearer and to form a containment volume,
13 the deployed at least one gasket element being effective to inhibit flow of matter between
14 the rear waist of the wearer and the waist material of the absorbent article.

Please cancel Claim 47.

1 52. (Twice Amended) The absorbent article of claim 45 wherein the at
2 least one gasket element is formed at least in part by a bodyside liner and the gasketing
3 assembly comprises a pair of [leg members] thrust portions, each [leg member] thrust portion
4 having first and second terminal ends with the first terminal end of each [leg member] thrust
5 portion connected to a face of the bodyside liner and the second terminal end of each [leg
6 member] thrust portion connected to the stretchable waist material.

1 54. (Twice Amended) In an absorbent article adapted to fit about a waist
2 of a wearer, including a rear waist of the wearer, the absorbent article having a longitudinal
3 direction and a lateral direction and which absorbent article includes a front waist section,
4 a stretchable rear waist section, and an intermediate section which interconnects the front and
5 rear waist sections and which intermediate section includes an absorbent portion, a method
6 comprising:

7 tensioning the stretchable rear waist section to deploy at least one gasket
8 element to fill a volume occurring between the rear waist section of the absorbent article and
9 the rear waist of the wearer and thereby inhibit a longitudinal flow of human discharge along
10 a [body faceable] bodyfacing surface of the absorbent article, the at least one gasket element
11 comprising at least one thrust portion, the at least one thrust portion comprising at least one
12 compression resistant member.

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14 56. (Amended) The method of claim 54 wherein the gasket element
15 includes a face portion [and at least one thrust portion] wherein upon tensioning the
16 stretchable rear waist section the face portion is deployed toward the waist of the wearer.

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